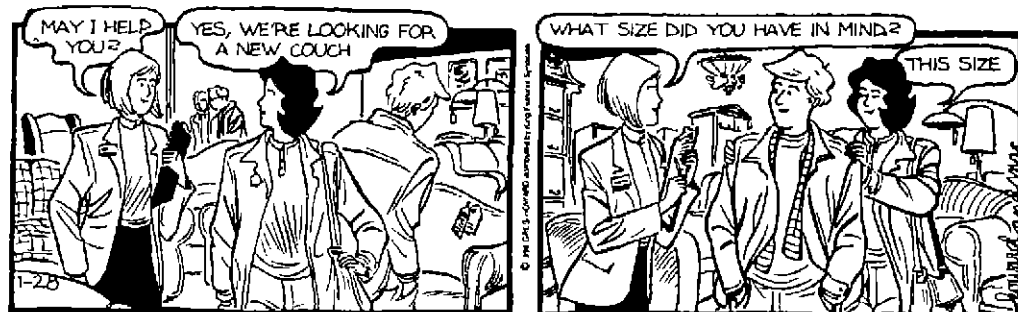


## BLONDIE



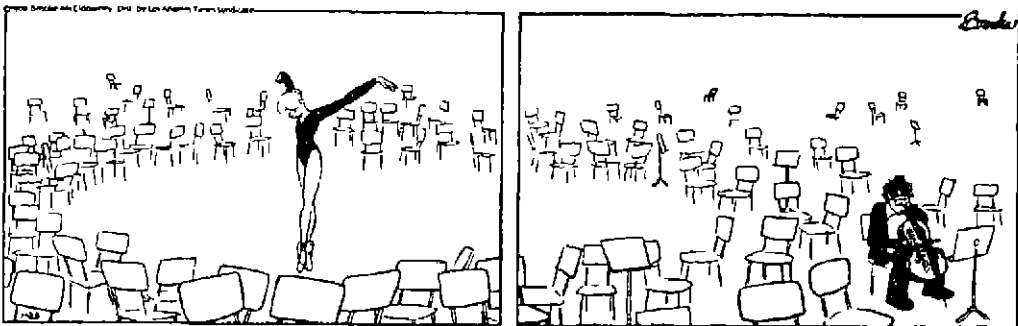
## SALLY FORTH



## THE AMAZING SPIDER-MAN



## 9 CHICKWEED LANE



## ANDY CAPP



## ROSE IS ROSE



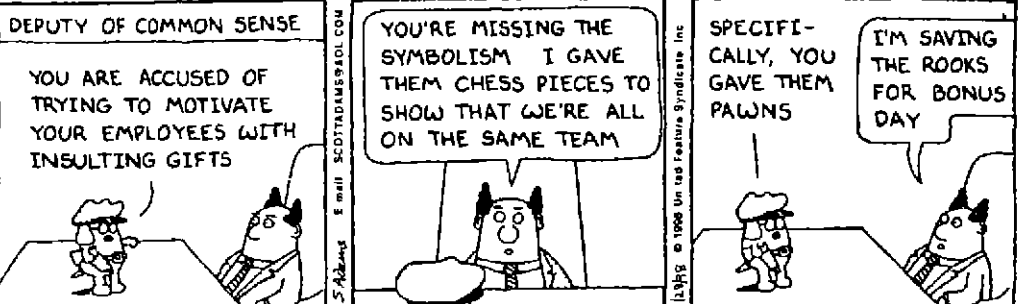
## HAGAR THE HORRIBLE



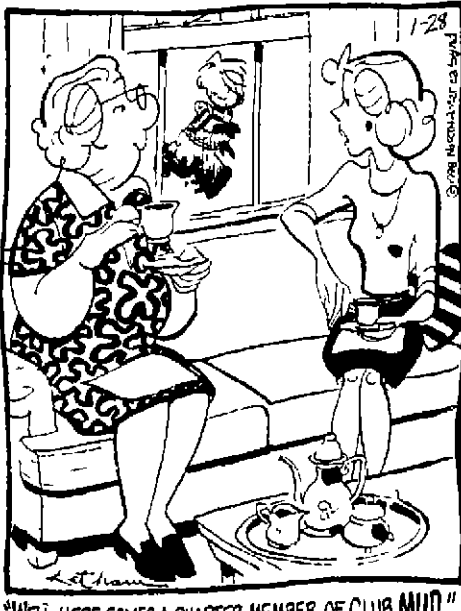
## MOTHER GOOSE AND GRIMM



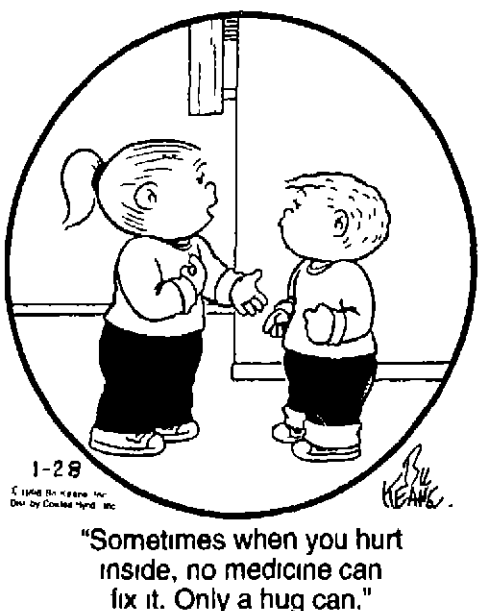
## DILBERT



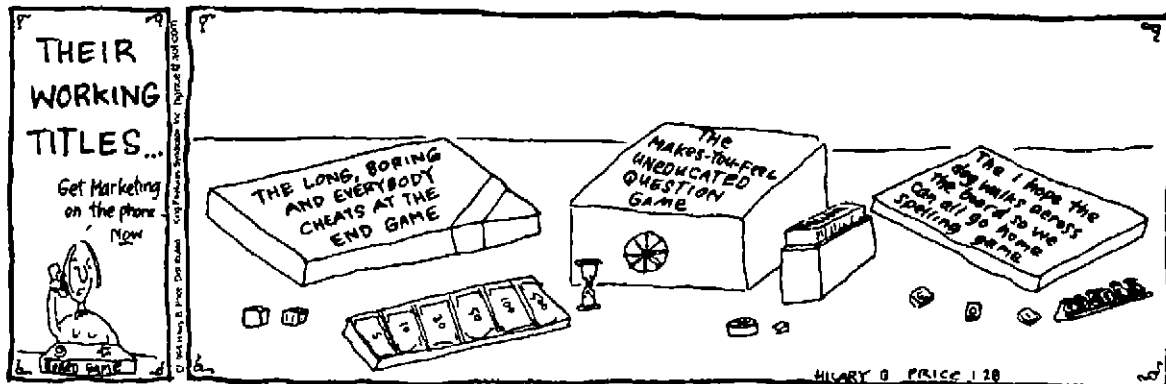
## DENNIS THE MENACE



## FAMILY CIRCUS



## RHYMES WITH ORANGE



## RALPH



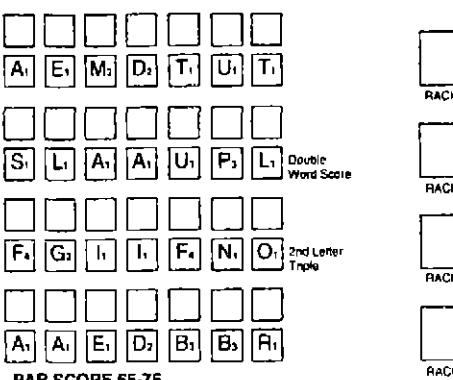
## Today's Birthdays

Musician-composer Acker Bilk is 69. Author Susan Sontag is 65. Actor Nicholas Pryor is 63. Actor Alan Alda is 62. Actress-singer Barbra Streisand is 48. Rock musician Dave Sharp is 39. Rock singer Sam Phillips is 36. Country musician Greg Cook (Ricochet) is 33. Singer Sarah McLachlan is 30. Rapper Rakim is 30. DJ Muggs (Cypress Hill) is 30. Singer Nick Carter (Backstreet Boys) is 18. Actor Elijah Wood is 17.

## I NEED HELP



## SCRABBLE



PAR SCORE 65-75  
by JUDD  
FOUR RACK TOTAL  
TIME LIMIT 20 MIN  
DIRECTIONS: Make a 2 to 7 letter word from the letters in each row. Add points of each word using scoring directions at right. 7-letter words get 50-point bonus. "Blanks" used as any letter have no point value. All Judd's words are in The Official Scrabble Players Dictionary (Merriam Webster) and OSW Official Scrabble Words (Chambers). JUDD'S SOLUTION TOMORROW

For solution, see Classified.

## WORD SLEUTH

## Apple -

R C Y U O N J F C Y V R O L H  
E B X U R L E D O B L I E B Y  
V S O N R Y E L K L H E B Y W  
T R C I D E R E W O R G O L J  
G E B Y S L T D P S N W U R P  
N K I G D L R U O S B E Z X V  
S Q O M K A I R P O G E E C A  
Y W U S H V Q T P M W R C R N  
L J H C F E C S A Y O E I P G  
X V R U S Q P N M C E C U A S  
K O J H F E C B Z Y X V J U T

Tuesday's unlisted clue: DUNE  
Find the listed words in the diagram. They run in all directions - forward, backward, up, down and diagonally.  
Wednesday's unlisted clue hint: CENTER PART OF APPLE  
Blossom Grower Pie Tree  
Juice Sauce Valley  
Computer Orchard Seed Wood  
Green Peel Strudel

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For solution, see Classified

## HOROSCOPE

For Thursday, Jan. 29, 1998

**ARIES** (March 21 to April 19) This is the best time for getting along with others. Still, restlessness or unconventionality could cause problems.  
**TAURUS** (April 20 to May 20) Business hunches are on the money. Talks with agents and lawyers are favored.  
**GEMINI** (May 21 to June 20) Common sense marks your dealings with others. This day you make a good spokesperson for a cause.  
**CANCER** (June 21 to July 22) It's smooth sailing concerning personal relationships. Make plans for a special outing.  
**LEO** (July 23 to Aug. 22) It's the perfect time for a getaway. You bring out the best in a partner.  
**VIRGO** (Aug. 23 to Sept. 22) There is luck for you on the job, and pleasure opportunities are plentiful. Good fortune comes through friends and creativity.  
**LIBRA** (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Although one door closes career-wise, another opens. You should count your blessings instead of dwelling on the negative.  
**SCORPIO** (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Although a travel plan could run into snags, you have other options for pleasure. Continue investigating investment possibilities.  
**SAGITTARIUS** (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) You can turn a bad situation into a good one by remaining your sweet and charming self.  
**CAPRICORN** (Dec. 22 to Jan. 19) A domestic showdown is possible unless you're low. Patience and affection will bring about the result you desire.  
**AQUARIUS** (Jan. 20 to Feb. 18) While you're fussing about one delay or problem on the job, don't let a worthwhile opportunity pass you by career-wise.  
**PISCES** (Feb. 19 to March 20) A sense of frustration is only temporary. Mellow out and be a good sport.

## ACES ON BRIDGE

## By Bobby Wolff

I make the game if I find the spade ace inside ' claimed a naive South. That's a mirage countered North. The spade ace had little to do with your failure. You just got your priorities tangled. South ruffed the second diamond and recklessly drew trumps. Then he led a low spade to dummy's king and East's ace. East punched South in diamonds to exhaust South's fast trump and success now rested with bringing in the club suit. This proved impossible and South had to lose two diamonds, a club and a spade for one down. Had West held the spade ace, it would not have changed matters. West wins his ace immediately and leads a diamond to remove South's last trump. South then gets two spade winners instead of one, but he still has only nine winners without a third club trick. To make his game, South should defer drawing trumps. At trick three, a better approach is to lead a spade. East's ace capturing dummy's king. A diamond return forces South to use another trump, and South can afford to cash only the king and ace of trumps. Then he takes a first-round finesse in clubs. West wins and leads a fourth diamond, but South remains in control. He ruffs with his last trump and crosses to dummy's high spade to draw West's last trump. Now the club suit runs, and the defenders get only a spade, a diamond and a club.

**NORTH** 0128 A  
♠ K Q 5  
♥ A Q 3  
♦ Q 5 4  
♣ K 8 3

**WEST** ♠ J 7 3  
♥ 7 5 2  
♦ J 10 9 7  
♣ Q 10 9

**EAST** ♠ A 10 9 5 2  
♥ 6 4  
♦ A K 8 2  
♣ 5 4

**SOUTH** ♠ 8 4  
♥ K J 10 9 8  
♦ 3  
♣ A J 7 6 2

Vulnerable Both  
Dealer North

The bidding  
North East South West  
1 NT Pass 3♥ Pass  
4♥ Pass Pass Pass

Opening lead Diamond jack

## N.Y. TIMES CROSSWORD

No. 1217

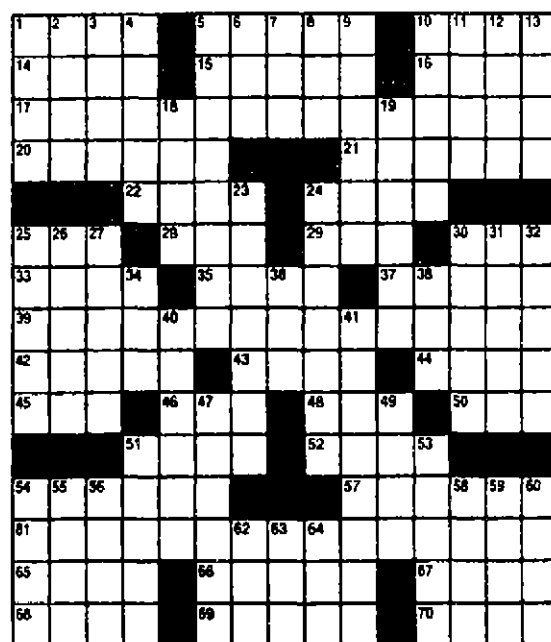
- ACROSS**  
1 Obsessive whaler  
5 Zero follower  
10 N.F.C. division  
14 Fraternity party wear  
15 Follow  
16 Tell it to the judge  
17 Quip part 1  
20 Stangy turndown  
21 City on the Puyallup River  
22 Energy provider in slang  
24 Islets  
25 Third degree?  
28 Moody's best  
29 Bear in Madrid  
30 Noisy trains  
33 War party's act  
35 Put some teeth into  
37 Oliver Twist villain  
39 Quip part 2  
42 Ring-tailed animal  
43 Submarine on sonar  
44 Impressionist  
45 Reunion attendees  
46 For  
48 Put down modern style  
50 Uno due  
51 Top  
52 Cigar ending  
54 Vituperated  
57 — corpus  
61 Quip part 3  
65 Stretched (out)  
66 Be in store for  
67 Louis Jolliet discovery of 1669  
68 Relinquish  
69 Yards  
70 Clears

## DOWN

- 1 Memo starter  
2 Christmas exclamation  
3 Old timers, with "the"  
4 Kind of training  
5 Not exactly first cabin  
6 — la la  
7 Kind of finish  
8 Treacherous, as roads  
9 Fronton equipment  
10 Heroic tales  
11 Ray of Hollywood  
12 Appear  
13 O'Hara spread  
18 Final Four org  
19 Joke's punchline, e.g.  
23 Smallish ballpark  
24 Sturdy leather  
25 Puncture  
26 Capital NE of Vientiane  
27 Sofa

## ANSWER TO PREVIOUS PUZZLE

MATS OLGA REATA  
ELAL OUGS ELLIS  
AGHA DALI DMARK  
NAOMI JUDD HERES  
SEESTO EDER  
TBA UNFAIR  
CLARO PALE ULNA  
AERO DEVIL DAFT  
SANG ISEE ADIOS  
THEEND LUBE  
ROOT ARABIA  
SWAMI BILLYBUDD  
CAMUS IDYL ASEA  
ANODE LENA TEST  
NEROS LEND ESTE



Puzzle by Michael S. Maurer

- 30 Land called "Mizram" in the Bible  
31 Bottle size  
32 Zzzz  
34 E in Morse  
36 It borders Fla.  
38 It borders Fla.  
40 Fur scarf  
41 Insults  
47 Modern phone feature  
49 Puncture  
51 In reserve  
53 The Beverly Hills actor  
54 — plaisir  
55 Pedal  
56 Not mint  
58 Cork's locale  
59 Busy  
60 Dates  
62 Northwest competitor  
63 Adage  
64 Carry the day

Answers to any three clues in this puzzle are available by touch tone phone 1 900 420 5656 (75¢ per minute). Annual subscriptions are available for the best of Sunday crosswords from the last 50 years 1 888 7 ACROSS